



The President's Daily Brief

~~Top Secret~~ 11 November 1968



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THE PRESIDENT'S
DAILY BRIEF
11 NOVEMBER 1968

1. South Vietnam

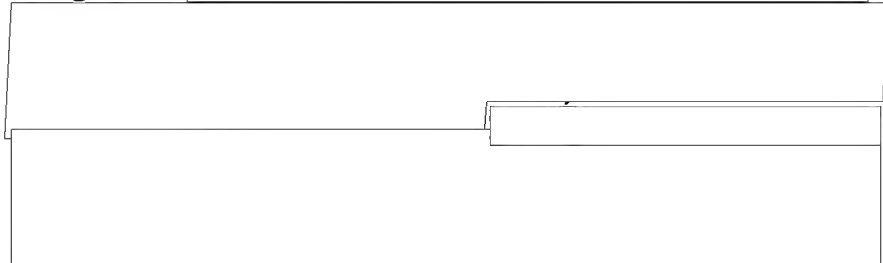
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2. Soviet Union

The Soviets launched another unman-
ned circumlunar probe from Tyuratam last
night.

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3. Hungary

Cyrus Sulzberger was able to get an interview with Kadar in Budapest last week.

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The interview [redacted] will evidently appear in the Times this week.

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4. Spain

The Spaniards are taking a realistic approach in their preparations for resumption of negotiations for the US-Spanish bases agreement.

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5. Venezuela

[redacted] a small number of Cuban and Cuban-trained guerrillas have made two landings in eastern Venezuela since mid-September. They are now trying to join up with the Castro-supported Movement of the Revolutionary Left operating in that area. Although relatively quiet recently, these people have clashed twice this month with government troops, who claim to have killed a few guerrillas and captured several others.

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6. Haiti

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FOR THE PRESIDENT'S EYES ONLY

- 1.) Special Daily Report on North Vietnam
- 2.) North Vietnamese Reflections of U S
Political Attitudes



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11 November 1968

Special Daily Report on North Vietnam
for the President's Eyes Only

11 November 1968

I. NOTES ON THE SITUATION

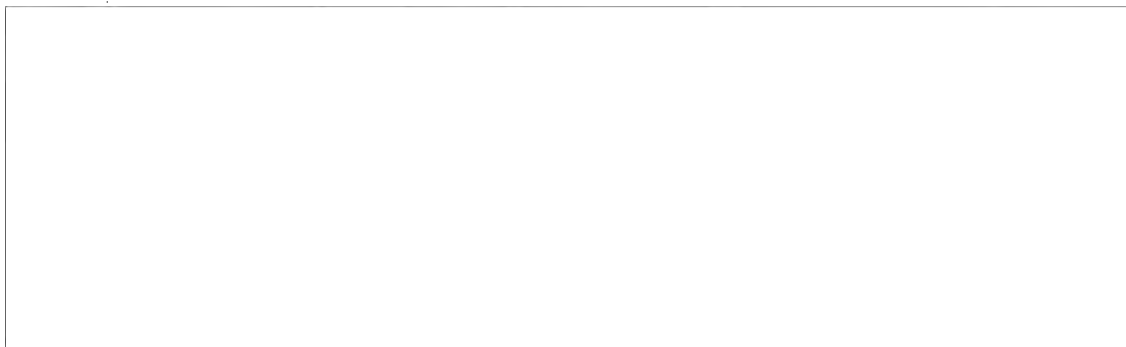
Nhan Dan on Saigon's Position: In an article in Nhan Dan on 10 November, Hanoi rejected Saigon's formula for expanded negotiations at Paris. Nhan Dan saw the move as an attempt to ignore the Liberation Front, the "genuine representative of the South Vietnamese people."

Although Hanoi apparently is still having some difficulty coming to grips with Saigon's refusal to come to Paris, its latest response is less cautious than its first reaction. The current article charges Saigon with trying to sabotage the quadripartite Paris conference and with challenging President Johnson's decision to talk with the Front. The "Thieu-Ky-Huong clique" has become increasingly arrogant toward its "lame-duck" masters in Washington, says Nhan Dan. Saigon thus is the "main obstacle," but the article insists that the US must still bear "full responsibility."

Liberation Radio came down even harder on Saigon's recalcitrance. It noted that the Thieu government's position is the subject of increasing ridicule around the world and has even "infuriated a number of US rulers."

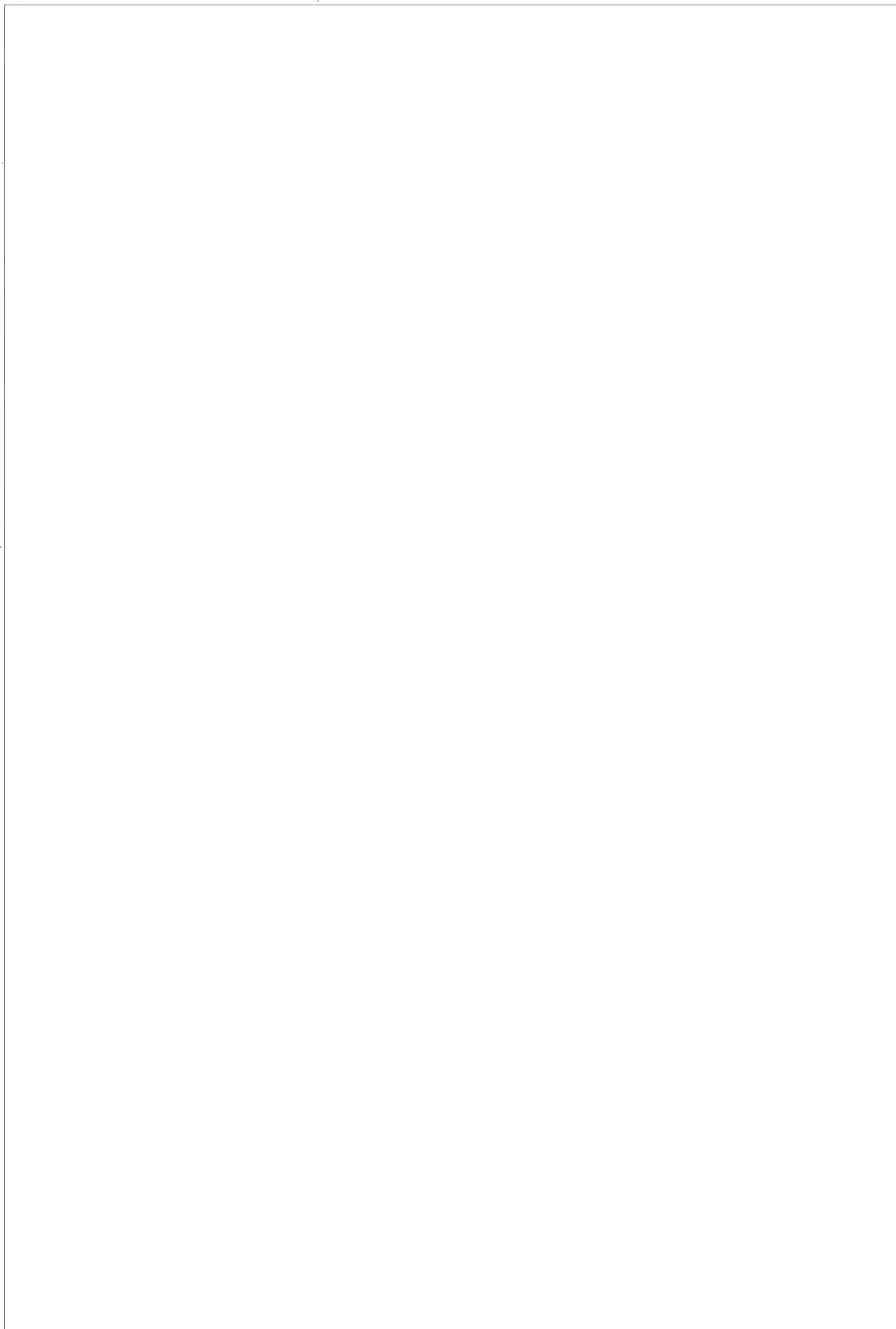
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II. NORTH VIETNAMESE REFLECTIONS OF US POLITICAL ATTITUDES ON THE WAR

Nhan Dan on the Elections: In a Nhan Dan article of 9 November, Hanoi abandoned its relatively mild position on the US elections. Its hard-hitting analysis saw Nixon's victory as a repudiation by the American people of the policies of the Democratic Party. According to Nhan Dan, the Great Society is in reality a "society of sickness, suffering, and death."

The Republicans did not escape Hanoi's vituperation, however, Nhan Dan went on to observe that the "oppressive policies" of the Democratic administration were merely adopted from the previous Republican administration. It concluded that Republican policies are in no way different from those of the Democrats.

* * *

Liberation Radio Comments: Liberation Radio also indulged in some vituperative commentary on the election. In a broadcast of 8 November it attributed the closeness of the vote to the perplexity of the electorate. It claimed that the American people saw more clearly than ever that "no matter who becomes President of the United States, the US Government's policy remains unchanged. Whether he is of the Republican Party or the Democratic Party, the US President only represents the interests of different US monopoly capitalist factions." The broadcast claimed that since "a very obdurate, cunning, and cruel fox" like President Johnson could not avoid a stalemate, President-elect Nixon would not be able to rescue his cause from "inevitable defeat."

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